



**Indiana  
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Nathan Schnellenberger, President  
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Dr. Tony Bennett  
Superintendent of Public Instruction  
State of Indiana State Teachers Association  
Room 229, State House  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2798

Dear Dr. Bennett,

I have received your invitation to meet to discuss specific components in Indiana's Race to the Top proposal that did not receive funding in the initial round of the program. After having thoroughly reviewed the application and having carefully read the reviewers' comments, I do not believe a single meeting in your office, with the media in attendance, can begin to produce the kind of work that needs to be accomplished to create a viable plan for funding in the program's second round.

That being said, I respectfully decline your invitation to attend.

ISTA is more than willing to meet with you and your staff in meaningful work sessions, but we will not participate in a media event arranged for the purpose of strong-arming ISTA into agreeing to an unequivocal sign-off regarding the Indiana Department of Education's Race to the Top application demands.

Sincerely,

Nate Schnellenberger